

## REMARKS

Claims 10, 11 and 15-22 are pending. Claims 10, 11 and 15-18 are allowed. Claims 19-22 stand rejected.

### Sequence Disclosure

The Office Action stated that the application does not comply with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.821-1.825 for the reasons set forth on the attached Notice To Comply With Requirements For Patent Applications Containing Nucleotide Sequence And/Or Amino Acid Sequence Disclosures. Applicants never received said Notice. However, the Action did state that all sequences in the specification must be identified by a SEQ ID NO, such as the Majority sequence in Table I.

Applicants have amended Table I to include a legend, which identifies the sequence disclosures in Table I by SEQ ID NO. Specifically, the sequence for human Langerin has been identified as SEQ ID NO: 2, the sequence for mouse Langerin has been identified as SEQ ID NO: 11, and the Majority sequence has been identified as SEQ ID NO: 12. Support for the amendment to Table I can be found on page 78, lines 20-22 and in Table I of the originally filed application. Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

Applicants have also amended the Sequence Listing to add SEQ ID NO: 12. SEQ ID NO: 12 refers to the Majority sequence of the alignment between human Langerin and mouse Langerin. Support for the amendment to the Sequence Listing can be found on page 78, lines 20-22 and in Table I of the originally filed application. Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 19-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 for adding new matter.

Specifically, the Examiner stated that support for the limitation of claim 19 regarding a nucleic acid which encodes an antigenic polypeptide of at least 10 contiguous residues of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 can not be found in the specification.

Applicants disagree. Support for nucleic acid fragments of Langerin can be found in the specification, as filed, at page 18, lines 17-21, and page 29, lines 25-37. Also, page 27, lines 31-33 of the specification states that the invention contemplates isolated nucleic acids or fragments that encode the Langerin protein or polypeptide fragments thereof. In addition, support for polypeptide fragments of Langerin can be found in the specification, as filed, at page 11, lines 19-25, and page 12, lines 5-19, which specifically mentions polypeptides having a stretch of at least 10 amino acids in length.

The antigenicity of the above fragments is also supported by the specification as filed. For example, the specification states that antibodies can be raised to Langerin proteins and fragments thereof. See page 4, lines 27-31; page 7, lines 1-4 and 12-16; page 11, lines 35-37; and page 24, lines 16-19 and 33-36. Also, antibodies to Langerin and its fragments may be made by fusing the polypeptide to a carrier. See page 8, lines 20-23. In addition, the specification describes nucleic acids that encode antigenic fragments of Langerin. See page 18, lines 17-24.

Therefore, applicants submit that claim 19 is supported by the specification as filed. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 19-22 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 is respectfully requested.

### CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that claims 19-22 are supported by the specification as originally filed and do not add new matter. Accordingly, reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of the claims at an early date are earnestly solicited.

If the undersigned can be of assistance to the Examiner in addressing issues to advance the application to allowance, please contact the undersigned at the number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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